# 司令官の相談室

Capt. Daniel L. Weed, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

CMDCM Wayne E. Smith, Command Master Chief

**CFAY soliciting ideas for award money use** – Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) is requesting ideas on how to spend the award money that CFAY will get in conjunction with receiving the Commander in Chief Installation of the Year Award. If you have any ideas on how the money can be best utilized for the benefit of Sailors, civilians, contractors and families aboard CFAY, please send your suggestions to cfay.pao.watch@fe.navy.mil.

**Geico Motorcycle Safety Poster Contest** – With May being Motorcycle Safety Month and in an effort to enhance awareness of motorcycle safety issues, Geico Insurance Company is sponsoring a poster contest. All Navy and Marine Corps active duty personnel are encouraged to submit their creative offering designed to educate, enlighten and/or entertain concerning motorcycling risks. The first place winner will receive his or her choice of the following prizes:

- Two 2009 National Hot Rod Association tickets
- A $300 Visa Gift Card
- Two tickets to one of several NASCAR races

The second place winner will receive a $200 Visa Gift Card and the third place winner will receive a $100 Visa Gift Card. Poster entries must be sized at 11 inches by 17 inches, at a resolution of 300 DPI. Mail a CD and paper copy of the poster design to:

Geico Powersports
1 Geico Landing
Virgina Beach, VA 23454
Attn: Sarah Weaver

Entries must be received no later than May 22. The posters will be judged by staff members of the Naval Safety Center and Geico Powersports. The winners will be announced in an ALSAFE message June 1.

**USO Japan Family Appreciation Carnival –** USO Japan with support from The Walt Disney Company will host a Family Appreciation Carnival May 16 (rain date May 17) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kosano Park. The event will feature free food, carnival games, entertainment and Disney giveaways. Call USO Japan Programs and Marketing Director Amanda Buzzell at 241-4894 for more information.

**Formation Running Through CFAY Housing Areas –** Rules regarding formation running through CFAY housing areas pertains to all commands, organizations and all military and civilian personnel at all times while on board CFAY and is in accordance with COMFLEACTINST 5800.2F. Formation runners shall run with the flow of traffic and in the correct traffic lane. Road guards shall be posted at least ten meters ahead and behind of the formation to alert vehicular traffic to slow down. Road guards shall wear reflective vests and during hours of darkness shall carry cone lights. Formations shall not call cadence and will endeavor to remain as quiet as possible when passing through housing areas, especially during housing quiet hours of 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight to 8 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Excessive disturbances and noise will not be tolerated at any time. All running cadences must be in good taste and not contain insulting and/or offensive language. No formation running is allowed in the housing areas located in Ikego and Negishi.

**DBIDS Registration** – Don't forget to register in the Defense Biometric Identification Data System (DBIDS)! Due to the updated Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) plan, increase in force protection and random anti-terrorism measures, all military, civilian employees, Navy contractors and their family members including children 10 years of age and older, Master Labor Contract (MLC) employees and local contractors on board Yokosuka Base or assigned to afloat units are required to register in DBIDS. Personnel that are currently registered in DBIDS but have had changes to their profile must come in and update their information. The DBIDS registration office is located at the main gate inside building 1495. Customer service hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

横須賀基地に関係する軍人、軍属、契約従業員及び10歳以上のご家族、MLC従業員、契約業者の方は全て指紋認識データシステム（DBIDS）に登録する必要があります。既に登録された方で、データに変更がある方は、1495ビルのDBIDS登録事7所でデータの更新を行って下さい。受付は月～金曜の午前7時から午後4時まで。

**Higher Social Security Payment** – If you have served on active duty any time from 1957 through 2001 you may qualify for a higher social security payment because of your military service. Up to $1,200 a year of earnings credited at time of application. Bring your DD214 to the Social Security Office when you apply. This benefit is not automatic, you must ask for it to receive it. Visit the Social Security Web site at www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm for more information.

**Free General Education Diploma (GED) Class Offered** – A free GED class is being offered at the Community Center, 3rd floor lecture hall, Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This class offers a unique opportunity for anyone interested in obtaining their GED. Students can improve their academic skills in a small group setting. E-mail to FREE_GED@hotmail.com for more information.

**BZ:** I recently reported to Yokosuka and am currently going through the process of checking in. I wanted to take a quick minute to praise the service and level of professionalism I received at the housing office. Both Naomi Hendges and Alice Yano assisted me and my family and made the check-in process comfortable and uplifting. I commend them and the rest of the Housing Office staff.

**BZ:** A special Bravo Zulu to the 2009 OU Masters in Human Relations graduates and a special thank you to Site Director Chuky Spivey!

Action Line correspondence may be edited for length and readability. Your questions, suggestions and "Bravo Zulu" comments are appreciated. Address concerns with your chain of command or directly with the parties involved, at the lowest level possible. If you don't get results, send an e-mail to cfay.pao.watch@fe.navy.mil. We welcome your feedback, especially if it is of a general nature and can help others. To contact the Seahawk, call 243-5607/3003 or send an e-mail to: Seahawk-Umitaka@fe.navy.mil.

# Thrift Savings Plan:

## *An easy opportunity to save for your future*

**By Ann Wells, LIFELines Service Network**

If you're a uniformed service member, you are eligible to help save for your retirement through the Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP – a retirement savings tool formerly open only to federal civilian employees. The TSP allows you to save a percentage of your pretax income, up to a current maximum of 16,500 per year.

**Eligibility.** The TSP is open to all active-duty and reserve members of the U.S. uniformed services, including:

- Army
- Navy
- Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Coast Guard
- Public Health Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Guard

Reservists who are also federal employees can participate in the TSP in both capacities, though separate accounts are maintained for each type of contribution. Upon separation or retirement from the service, individuals are no longer eligible to participate in the uniformed services TSP.

**When to enroll.** While the TSP is open to all members of the uniformed services, participation is not automatic. If you choose to enroll, you must do the necessary paperwork to become an active participant.

**How to enroll.** If you choose to participate, ask your disbursing office or download and print out the TSP Election Form. Return the completed form to your service's payroll or disbursing office. You can change the amount of your contribution using another form.

There are five investment funds available through the TSP. Initial contributions are automatically invested in the fund with the lowest risk. You must notify the TSP if you choose to invest in another fund. Notification can be made in several ways:

- Through the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov.
- By submitting an investment allocation form. This form is not available online, but you can get one through your TSP service office or directly from your service.

The TSP is an easy opportunity to begin or increase your retirement savings. Take some time to learn about the program and how TSP can help you prepare for the future.

**Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka**
**Capt. Daniel L. Weed**

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